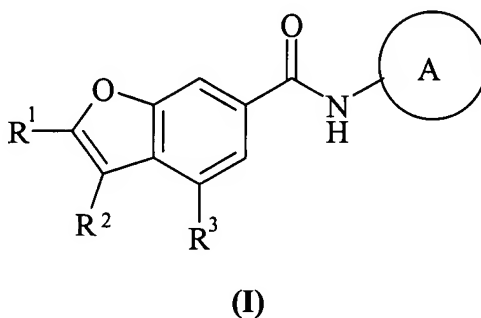


**Amendments to the Claims:**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.**

**Claims**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound of formula (I) or a salt, ~~solvate or pro-drug~~  
or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester or amide thereof,



wherein:

**Ring A** is pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl; wherein said pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from  $R^4$ ;

one of  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  is hydrogen and the other is hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl; wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from  $R^5$ ;

$R^3$  is selected from  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocycloxy and heterocycloxy; wherein  $R^3$  is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from  $R^6$ ; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^4$  is selected from halo, carboxy and  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^5$  and  $R^6$  are independently selected from halo,  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, *N*-( $C_{1-4}$ alkyl)amino, *N,N*-( $C_{1-4}$ alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocycloxy, heterocycloxy and carbocyclidenyl; wherein  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more  $R^7$ ; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^7$  is selected from halo, carboxy, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino and *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1 or a salt, ~~solvate or pre-drug~~ or an in vivo hydrolysable ester or amide thereof, wherein Ring A is unsubstituted or is substituted by carboxy.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 2 or a salt, ~~solvate or pre-drug~~ or an in vivo hydrolysable ester or amide thereof, wherein one of  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  is hydrogen and the other is hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The compound according Claim 1 or a salt, ~~solvate or pre-drug~~ or an in vivo hydrolysable ester or amide thereof, wherein  $R^3$  is selected from  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy; wherein  $R^3$  is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from  $R^6$ .

Claim 5 (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1 or a salt, ~~solvate or pre-drug~~ or an in vivo hydrolysable ester or amide thereof, wherein  $R^3$  is selected from 2-fluorobenzyloxy, 5-methylisoxazol-3-ylmethoxy and 2-thien-3-ylethoxy.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A compound according to Claim 1 or a salt, ~~solvate or pre-drug~~ or an in vivo hydrolysable ester or amide thereof selected from:

2-methyl-4-isobutoxy-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

2-methyl-4-(2-fluorophenylmethoxy)-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

2-methyl-4-isobutoxy-6-[*N*-(5-carboxythiazol-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

2-methyl-4-(5-methylisoxazol-3-ylmethoxy)-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

4-(2-fluorophenylmethoxy)-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

4-(5-methylisoxazol-3-ylmethoxy)-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

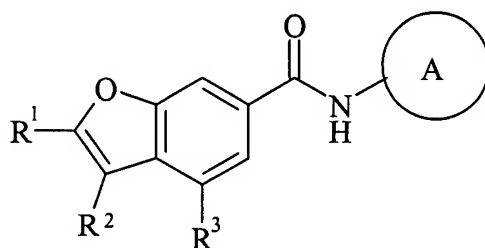
2-methyl-4-(thien-2-ylethoxy)-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran; and

2-methyl-4-isobutoxy-6-[*N*-(thiazol-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 6, or a salt, ~~pro-drug or solvate~~ or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester or amide thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of treating a disease mediated through glucokinase, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 6 or a salt, ~~pro-drug or solvate~~ or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester or amide thereof.

Claim 9 (currently amended and withdrawn): A method for preparing a compound of formula (I) or a salt, ~~solvate or pro-drug~~ or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester or amide thereof:



(I)

wherein:

**Ring A** is pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl; wherein said pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from  $R^4$ ;

one of  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  is hydrogen and the other is hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl; wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from  $R^5$ ;

$R^3$  is selected from  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocycloxy and heterocycloxy; wherein  $R^3$  is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from  $R^6$ ; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^4$  is selected from halo, carboxy and  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

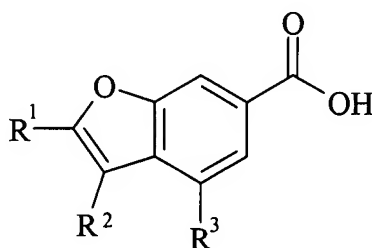
$R^5$  and  $R^6$  are independently selected from halo,  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, *N*-( $C_{1-4}$ alkyl)amino, *N,N*-( $C_{1-4}$ alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocycloxy, heterocycloxy and

carbocyclidenyl; wherein  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more  $R^7$ ; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^7$  is selected from halo, carboxy, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino and *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino;

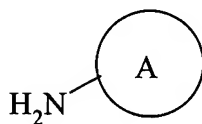
wherein the method comprises:

*Process 1*): reacting an acid of formula (II):



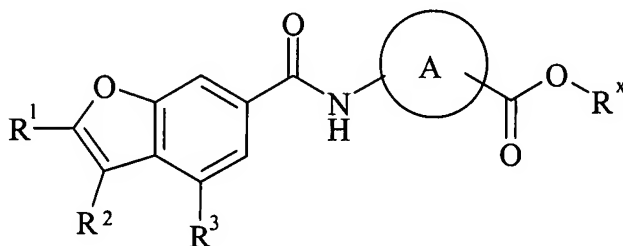
(II)

or an activated derivative thereof; with a compound of formula (III); or



(III)

*Process 2*) for compounds of formula (I) wherein  $R^4$  is carboxy; deprotecting a compound of formula (III):



(III)

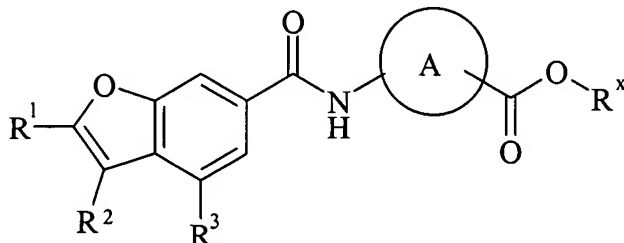
wherein  $R^x$ -OC(O) is an ester group and  $R^x$  is selected from  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl and benzyl; and optionally:

i) converting a compound of the formula (I) into another compound of the formula (I); and/or

ii) removing any protecting groups; and/or

iii) forming a salt, ~~solvate or pro-drug~~ or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester or amide thereof.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): A compound of formula (III):



(III)

wherein:

**R<sup>x</sup>-OC(O)** is an ester group and **R<sup>x</sup>** is selected from C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl and benzyl;

**Ring A** is pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl; wherein said pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R<sup>4</sup>;

one of **R<sup>1</sup>** and **R<sup>2</sup>** is hydrogen and the other is hydrogen or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl; wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R<sup>5</sup>;

**R<sup>3</sup>** is selected from C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocycloxy and heterocycloxy; wherein R<sup>3</sup> is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R<sup>6</sup>; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl;

**R<sup>4</sup>** is selected from halo, carboxy and C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl;

**R<sup>5</sup>** and **R<sup>6</sup>** are independently selected from halo, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocycloxy, heterocycloxy and carbocyclidenyl; wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R<sup>7</sup>; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl;

**R<sup>7</sup>** is selected from halo, carboxy, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino and *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): The method of claim 9, wherein **R<sup>x</sup>** is selected from methyl and ethyl.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The compound of claim 10, wherein **R<sup>x</sup>** is selected from methyl and ethyl.